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Senate Bill 1499 (as introduced) Sponsor: Senator Jason E. Allen (as enrolled)

CONTENT

The bill would amend Public Act 152 of 1885, which provides for veterans' facilities, to allow a veteran of the armed forces of the United States to be admitted to a veterans' facility established in Michigan under the Act, if he or she were eligible for U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs health care or financial assistance for long-term nursing or day care.

Currently, all members of the U.S. armed forces who have been honorably discharged and served for at least 90 days in a war, campaign, or expedition in which the U.S. armed forces were or are participants, who are disabled and have no adequate means of support, and who are incapable of earning a living due to their disability, are entitled to admission to a veterans' facility, subject to rules governing the admission of applicants. Otherwise qualified veterans who served less than 90 days and were honorably discharged, and who acquired a service-connected disability, may be admitted. An applicant may not be admitted unless he or she served in a Michigan regiment or has been accredited to the State, or has established residency at the time of applying for admission.

The bill would delete all of these provisions.

MCL 36.11 Legislative Analyst: Suzanne Lowe

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the State's two veterans' homes, as the bill's provisions merely reflect a change in admissions policy that has been in place since the year 2000 after being adopted by the homes' seven-member board of managers. The bill would establish in statute a corresponding policy, on the advice of the Office of Auditor General, to ensure proper and continuing expenditures for members who are peacetime veterans.

Date Completed: 9-20-10 Fiscal Analyst: Bruce Baker